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market price whichever is less except in the case of the Government Fisheries Cannery, Chaliyam, where selling rates are below cost and where stocks are valued at two-thirds of the selling rate.

(d) The question is under the consideration of Government. The mill is closed temporarily owing to accumulation of stock.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know whether Government enquired and found out why they cannot sell this timber in the Calcutta market or whether any other country supplies them, and, if so, whether it is of a better quality than that supplied by the Russellkonda Saw Mill ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ We do not sell any sleepers at all.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—“ With reference to clause (a), may I know why the interest charged on the capital invested has been reversed ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I want notice of the question.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—“ With reference to clause (a), may I know why there is this difference in the system of valuation of stocks between the Russellkonda Saw Mills and other commercial concerns ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ We pay more for the timber we get for we get the best timber.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—“ May I know whether 4 annas covers the cost of timber all together ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ It does not cover the cost entirely.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ With reference to clause (c), may I know how this 4 annas will cover the cost of timber ; because yesterday in answer to question we were told that the cost of felling and carting alone exceeded 8 annas ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ If the hon. Member writes to me, I shall give him the necessary information.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ Does it include seigniorage charges also to the Government ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ There are no such charges at all.”

Sale of ‘ sal logs ’ to the Russellkonda Saw Mill.

* 205 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the average rate at which sal logs are sold to the Russellkonda Saw Mill ;

(b) the average rate at which sal logs are sold to private purchasers at Russellkonda ;

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- (c) the difference in the two rates and the reasons for the difference ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that all first-class selections are given to the Saw Mill and the 'rejected' logs are sold to private purchasers at a much higher rate than the rate at which Saw Mill gets its first-class selections ;
- (e) the reason why sal logs are supplied to the Saw Mill at an inconceivably low rate ; and
- (f) whether the cost at which sal logs are sold to the Saw Mill covers at least the cost of felling and carting the logs ?

- A.—(a) The present price fixed for the supply of sal logs is 4 annas per cubic foot.
- (b) two annas 2 pies per cubic foot.
- (c) one anna 10 pies per cubic foot. The difference in the rates is due to the fact that the timber sold to private purchasers is not of such good quality as that supplied to the mill.
- (d) Logs suitable for milling only are accepted by the mill. The logs rejected are sold in public auction. The average price realized is lower than the price charged to the mill.
- (e) The rate of 4 annas per cubic foot was fixed at the time the mill was started as representing the estimated cost of felling and carting.
- (f) The present estimated cost of felling and carting is 4 annas 9.15 pies including 'overhead' charges.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—"I shall come to the same question in another way in connexion with this question which gives some more details so that the hon. the Home Member may revise his own answer. Clause (f) says that the present estimated cost of felling and carting is 4 annas 9.15 pies, while the cost price at which timber is sold to the Russellkonda Saw Mills is only 4 annas. I want to know why Government is giving timber to the Saw Mills at a cost 9.15 pies below the actual cost of felling and carting let alone the cost of timber."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"For the information of the House I may say that we are considering the question of raising it to 5 annas."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—"Will it even then cover the cost?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"We are considering the question as I said."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Why don't they include the seigniorage charges?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"There is no necessity for it; anyhow as I said we are considering the question."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Suppose a private company undertakes to remove the timber from the forest then they would have to pay the seigniorage charges to the Government and those charges will enter into the calculation of the cost of timber per cubic foot."

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The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The hon. Member is under a misapprehension as to the difference between a private concern and a Government concern."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Sir, in ascertaining whether the Russellkonda Saw Mill which has been made into a commercial concern is a paying concern or not should we not include also the seigniorage charges which a private concern would have to pay to the Government if they undertook to remove the timber? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" For the information of the hon. Member I may say that this 4 annas was fixed at the time when the mill was started and I can assure the hon. Member that we are now considering the question of raising it to 5 annas."

Removal of green manure in North Arcot, etc., districts.

* 206 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: With reference to the answers given to clause (c) of question No. 1278 and a supplementary question answered on 3rd December 1924 regarding removal of green manure, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state if the report called for has been received and what action, if any, has been taken regarding North Arcot and other districts?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 652, Development, dated 2nd May 1925, which is placed on the Editors' Table.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, the Government Order referred to stated that the matter will be enquired into as regards three districts, North Arcot, Cuddapah and one other district which I do not remember at present. May I know when the matter will be enquired into, who will make the enquiries, and whether any non-official members will be associated and whether the ryots' point of view will be presented by anybody? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The enquiry is now proceeding, I understand."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" By whom? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" By the Director of Agriculture and the Chief Conservator of Forests."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is there any representative of the ryots whose grievances this enquiry is supposed to remove associated with this enquiry? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" They will be consulted if necessary."

Jails.

Moral lessons for prisoners.

* 207 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether moral lessons are given to the prisoners in Cuddalore and Trichinopoly jails; and

(b) if not, why not?